	Watershed Stewards Program Wonders of Watersheds (WOW!) Curriculum
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	Graph It!

## How is water measured in a river?

The amount of water in a river changes daily, seasonally, and year to year. Hydrologists measure the river's streamflow (the amount of water passing through) at gaging stations (flow measuring stations) and make hydrographs (charts). A discharge hydrograph records the streamflow at one spot on the river over a period of time in cubic feet per second (cfs). Rainfall amounts and data from stream gaging stations help hydrologists plan for the needs of water users within a watershed, including: drinking water, water for crops and livestock, manufacturing and shipping products, fish and wildlife, and recreation.

Directions: in the chart below, record the streamflow for each season from the simulation.

Imagine that this is a seasonal average and that each bead equals 10 cfs.

## Data

Season	# of Beads	# of Beads x 10 cfs = total cfs
Winter		
Spring		
Summer		
Fall		







Record your data on the graph below for each of the seasons.

500  Beads/min = 5,000  cfs			
450  Beads/min = 4,500  cfs			
400 Beads/min = 4,000 cfs			
+00 Deads/ IIIII — +,000 eis			
350  Beads/min = 3,500  cfs			
300 Beads/min = 3,000 cfs			
300 Beads/IIIII – 3,000 cis			
250 Beads/min =2,500 cfs			
200 P 1 / : - 2 000 f			
200 Beads/min = 2,000 cfs			
150 Beads/min = 1,500 cfs			
100 D 1 / : - 1000 C			
100  Beads/min = 1,000  cfs			
50  Beads/min = 500  cfs	-		

WINTER SPRING SUMMER FALL